

## REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed June 9, 2003. Claims 1-21 were rejected. Claims 1-21 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Faustini (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,870) in view of Comer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,430,584), hereinafter "Comer." Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in light of the following remarks.

Applicant's claim 1 includes numerous elements that are not disclosed or suggested by Faustini and Comer. For example, the cited references do not teach or suggest "(e) automatically switching input focus to a second field in response to the entering the mathematical operator, wherein the second field is displayed below the first field on the display screen." This limitation of Applicant's claims is not present in a standard computerized spreadsheet or calculator, nor is it disclosed by Faustini or Comer.

Applicant respectfully submits that Faustini has little or no relationship to Applicant's invention. Faustini relates to a system for collaborating components or objects in a visual development environment. Collaboration is effected by augmenting eligible components or objects with appropriate collaboration code and registering such components or objects with a web server. At col. 97, lines 1-30, Faustini cites a calculator and a spreadsheet as two examples of such components. Applicant respectfully submits that Faustini does not disclose any interaction between the calculator and the spreadsheet.

Comer relates to automatic, "real time" function calculation in a computerized spreadsheet. As the user selects various ranges of cells, an auto-calculator calculates and continuously re-calculates a preset function using the selected cell(s) as input. The pre-defined function may be selected from a finite set of simple operations such as Average, Count, Count Nums, Max, Min, Sum, and other suitable operations (see, e.g., Fig. 4 and

col. 6, lines 31-47). Only one operation can be pre-selected at a time. Therefore, Comer's automatic calculation method cannot be used for complex arithmetic operations that combine multiple mathematical operators. Applicant therefore submits that Comer fails to teach or suggest "(d) entering a mathematical operator" and "(i) repeating steps (c) through (h) until all input numeric values and mathematical operators in a desired calculation have been received into the memory."

Comer does disclose that the auto-calculator can be configured to employ a user-defined function (e.g., written in a macro language). However, Comer does not teach or suggest that the user-defined function can be used for "automatically calculating a result of the [multiple] input numeric values and [multiple] mathematical operators." Instead, the user-defined function of Comer is a single operation that is performed across a set of input cells, wherein the set is of an indefinite and variable size. Comer does not teach or suggest that the user-defined function may combine multiple numeric values and multiple mathematical operators in a specific order as claimed by Applicant.

In Comer, the result of the pre-defined function is displayed in a separate "results pane," not a field in the spreadsheet (see, e.g., Fig. 5). Therefore, Comer does not teach or suggest "(k) automatically displaying the result at a field on the display screen in the first column below the output numeric values and mathematical operators."

The Office Action argued that it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Faustini and Comer to "make the combined spreadsheet and calculation capabilities portable as well as easy to use." Applicant again submits that Faustini has little relationship to spreadsheets and calculators; Faustini mentions them only as examples of collaborative components. Therefore, it would not have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Faustini and Comer in the manner suggested by the Office Action.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that claims 1, 8, and 15 are patentable over Faustini in view of Comer. Dependent claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-21

are also believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Therefore, claims 1-21 are patentable over Faustini in view of Comer. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Section 103(a) rejections of claims 1-21.

## CONCLUSION

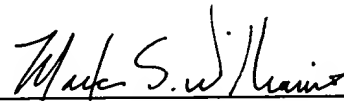
Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5676-00300/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☐ Request for Approval of Drawing Changes
- ☐ Notice of Change of Address
- ☐ Check in the amount of \$        for fees (        ).
- ☐ Other:

Respectfully submitted,



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